

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 7, and 9-11.

Please add claims 12 and 13 as follows:

B1  
12. A method of manufacture of loose particulate material for use in waste water treatment, the method comprising contacting granules of plastic materials with grains of a soluble substance, at an elevated temperature, to coat the granules with the soluble substance grains, and subsequently dissolving the soluble substance grains from the coating to provide the surfaces of the granules with concavities as a habitat for micro-organisms effective in waste water treatment.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein the soluble substance grains include sodium chloride.

REMARKS

Claims 12 and 13 will be pending in this application after the Examiner enters the forgoing amendment.

In the Parent Application of this Divisional Application, the rejected the claims as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,915,884 to Capdeville et al in view of Applicants' earlier International patent application WO 96/25367. Capdeville et al teach a process for production of granular material for water treatment in which a thermoplastic material making up the bulk of the granule has grains of a more dense substance dispersed through the plastics granules. During the